Sale of eatables in running trains

†1141. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that eatables are sold by unauthorised persons at double rates in running trains, except in "Shatabdi and Rajdhani Express"; and

(b) if so, the concrete steps taken by the Government so far to check this practice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) Unauthorised hawking on Railway stations and trains is a punishable offence under the Railways Act, 1989 and checks are conducted regularly to prevent unauthorised hawking.

(b) Railway administration conducts special drives from time to time to control unauthorised hawking through prosecution and imposing penalties on such activities. As a result of checks conducted during the last three years *viz.* 1999, 2000 and 2001, as many as 50907, 59639 and 80514 unauthorised hawkers and vendors had been apprehended respectively.

Railway projects in Madhya Pradesh

1142. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the present on-going railway projects and surveys in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) the reasons for slow progress and the expenditure incurred thereon so far, alongwith the estimated cost thereof, project-wise;

(c) by when, these projects are likely to be completed; and

(d) the funds allocated to each project during 2000-2001, 2001-2002 and 2002-2003?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) to (d) Details of the present on-going projects are given as under:—

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.